

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-08

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FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5275

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 1968

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: RH SF

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON GENEVA CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA

1. DR AHRIN PALLEY, LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE MUZOREWA DELEGATION AT THE GENVA CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA, EMPHASIZED IN JOHANNESBURG NOV 11 IN PUBLIC ADDRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF A PEACEFUL TRANSITION IN RHODESIA FOR THE STABILITY OF ALL OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. MOREOVER, HE ADDED, THE TRANSITION MUST BE QUICK, AS WELL AS ORDERLY, FOR "DELAY CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE OUT TO CREATE MISCHIEF".

2. HE DENIED THERE WAS ANY SUCH THING AS A "KISSINGER PLAN" FOR A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT AND STATED THE REAL STUMBLING BLOCK TO FURTHER PROGRESS IS CONTROL OF THE POLICE AND ARMY IN THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. HE INTIMATED THE BRITISH MIGHT BE PREPARED TO STEP IN IAND SUPERVISE THESE FUNCTIONS DESPITE THEIR PRESENT PUBLIC STANCE TO THE CONTRARY.

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3. OF ADDITIONAL INTEREST, PALLEY CHARACTERIZED

THE VARIOUS DELEGATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE IN
THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

MUZOREWA - MAN OF RELIGION AND LITTLE MONEY,
ENORMOUS GRASS-ROOTS SUPPORT

NKOMO - ABLE, CLEVER MAN PLAYING WEST AND
EAST OFF AGAINST EACH OTHER. BIG
MONEY CANDIDATE, LITTLE
GRASS-ROOTS SUPPORT. AMERICANS
SUPPORT HIM FINANCIALLY

MUGABE - NOMINAL SPOKESMAN FOR GUERRILLAS,
LITTLE TENURE, LITTLE UNIFIED
LOYALTY AMONGST SUPPORTERS

SITOLE - ONCE A POWERFUL POLITICAL LEADER,
POWER ON WANE, COULD BE APPROACHED IN AN
ACCOMMODATION CAPACITY

4. DR PALLEY FLEW IN FROM THE GENEVA
NEGOTIATIONS TO ADDRESS A SOUTH AFRICAN INVESTMENT
CONFERENCE.
JOHNSON

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NNN

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